

AMERICAN ARMY DECIDED THE WAR

U. S. People Should Realize This Fully, Declares Correspondent

GERMANS ADMIT FACT

Europe Watching Public Opinion Here as Guide to Conduct in Peace Conference

By EDWIN L. JAMES Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

Coblenz, Jan. 7.—Talks with visitors here who left the United States after the cessation of hostilities, and the reading of American newspapers show that America seriously underestimates the part played by her army in defeating Germany.

At this time, when American public opinion may play such a large role in shaping the final determinations of the peace conference, the people of the United States should have full realization of the fact that it is due to the American army that the soldiers of France, England and America today line the Rhine and that German soldiers don't patrol the streets of Paris.

They should have full realization of the fact that had it not been for America, Germany would today be the victor of the world war.

These statements are no exaggerations. They are plain statements of fact.

Events in Paris in the next three months or less are going to be of a nature that call for the assertion by the American people of their full claim to consideration.

Germans Quit Before Defeat It seems that the chief error made by Americans in summing up the situation is that they fail to realize fully that the German army quit before it was whipped. No one who knows anything about the real situation will deny that the German army could have fought on through many battles before the Allied soldiers would ever have reached the Rhine. But Germany realized the defeat that was impending and the quit while the quitting was good.

That public opinion has a whole lot to back it, and Americans have a perfect right to wave the staff and stripes to their hearts' content over the corpse of Prussian militarism.

No one wants to detract from the glorious accomplishments of the arms of valiant France and enduring England, but at the same time they did not whip Germany until we took a hand, and that fact will not wane.

America Made Germans Quit Sometimes one thinks that the true story of America's part will be lost when German historians write their story of the war. But ask any German officer now, ask any German soldier about it and he will tell you that America made him quit. He will tell you that he would have gone to Paris in June had it not been for the Americans, who added to the Allied forces just the strength which made them too much for the advancing German arms.

Using some far common sense—when did the American fighting men really get into the war? It was in the last days, way down around Chateau-Thierry. What had the Germans been doing up to then? They had been hitting the Allied line and in every case making gains which took them nearer and nearer to Paris and the coast. What happened after the first of June? The Germans made one more try on the fifteenth of July, and ever since have been going backward. That is the honest truth about it.

This time of international political negotiations is no time for Americans to belittle what the Third Division did in the last few days of May when green Americans stopped the Germans at Chateau-Thierry after the Allied forces had retreated thirty kilometers in as many hours. This is no time to belittle what the Second Division did on June 1 when, without artillery, it straddled the Paris-Metz road about Belleau Wood and there stopped the Germans at the nearest point to Paris.

And now who should speak rightly of the feat of the Third Division on the 18th of July, when the boche made his last dash? What is to be the fate of the Division, east of Chateau-Thierry, within seventeen hours he was back across the Marne, which ran with the blood of 15,000 men it cost him to meet his vain attempt against the Americans.

Hardest Blow of War Above all, bear in mind that the hardest blow dealt the Germans in the whole war was when the First Army went through the Argonne and reached Sedan, cutting the German army's most important line of communication.

Was it mere coincidence that it was just when we broke the last Argonne hold that the Germans cry for a armistice went up? How much would the French and British advance to the west have been held up had not we forced the Germans? Figure why this toughest job was given to the freshest and best troops in Europe.

And when the war ended what nation had a fresh army just starting a great campaign between the Meuse and Moselle against Metz? What nation had millions of young and brave soldiers coming, always coming, in ever-swelling strength with a spirit that knew no defeat, and who did not know how to retreat? What nation had Germany "buffeted"?

America is accused here in Europe of boasting too much. This is no time for America to try to right that impression by reading backward.

SYSTEM FAILED, SAYS HARDEN

Germany Squandered Strength of Nation to Maintain Policy

M'CUMBER URGES NATIONS LEAGUE

First Republican Senator to Voice Approval of the President's Plan

By the Associated Press

Washington, Jan. 7.—Immediate establishment of a league of nations, with Germany as a member, was urged in the Senate today by Senator M'Cumber, of North Dakota, the first Republican member of the Senate to voice approval of President Wilson's proposal for such an organization.

The first clause of a compact for such a league, Senator M'Cumber said, should declare "that each independent nation of the world as it shall exist at the time this compact shall be executed has the right to live and work out its own destiny, free from any menacing danger of any mighty military neighbor."

"With such a solemn compact of nations executed by all the great nations of the world," said the North Dakota Senator, "the danger of any great war would be pressed far into the realm of impossibility. Does anybody believe that if such a great international agreement had been in existence prior to 1914 even Germany, with her autocratic and irresponsible government, would have dared break her compact?"

"I want this bond and I want Germany's signature to this bond. She has been the only country that has threatened the peace of the whole world for the last forty-five years, and to meet her threat every other nation has had to keep itself armed to the teeth and weighted to the verge of poverty to maintain military armaments."

"And as deeply as I hate Kaiserism and the abominable doctrines of military Germany, I believe we should extend the hand of brotherhood and friendship to regenerate Germany when its people have repudiated the stigma on real German character and have steered their country clear of the worse malady, Bolshevism."

Replying to the argument that establishment of a league of nations would weaken the Monroe doctrine, Senator M'Cumber said the league would strengthen it, as all nations would be bound to respect the territorial integrity of the Central and South American republics, whereas now only the United States guarantees their independence and integrity.

Discussing other phases of the work of the Peace Conference, Senator M'Cumber said the congress at Versailles may find it necessary to return to Belgium all of the territory wrested from her in 1839 and thus make the Rhine River the western boundary of Germany.

"The Allies," he said, "may deem this necessary to place Germany in a position where the wicked teachings of her military and political rulers which brought on this war cannot in the future influence any great portion of Europe and thus re-ignite her peace and safety."

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CHINA SUPPORTS NATIONS LEAGUE

President Hsu Sends Message of Indorsement to President Wilson

SEES PEACE IN FAR EAST

Believes Delicate Problems Will Be Solved by Unity of World Powers

By CARL W. ACKERMAN Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger

Peking, Jan. 7.—China will support President Wilson's plans for a league of nations. President Hsu Shih-Chang has telegraphed President Wilson at Paris that the Chinese Government fully indorses America's proposals.

In a conversation with Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Teheng-Loh received translation of the message which the minister stated, the President and cabinet having approved, was being dispatched to President Wilson personally.

"The policy which you have espoused to form a league of nations in order to maintain the cause of justice for all countries, whether big or small, as well as to maintain the permanent peace of the world, is one of the greatest importance," the message states. "I, President of the Republic of China, together with her people, fully indorse and support this policy, and express the sincere hope that every effort will be spent to make it succeed, in order that the world may enjoy peace and happiness."

The sending of this telegram means more than a whole-hearted indorsement of America's position. It means that China is looking forward to the time when all the great world powers can unite in solving those delicate and dangerous far eastern problems, which have only been half solved in the past, and which loom today above the horizon of peace. Peace is gravely important.

People of China with whom I have spoken since traveling from Siberia through to Peking look upon the Peace Conference and a league of nations as being the world's opportunity to get together in the East and solve the questions, which, when solved, will guarantee

Americans in Berlin to Take Photographs

Berlin, Jan. 5.—(By A. P., delayed.)—Lieutenant Arthur Sutton and Privates McCauley, Sues and Hutton, of the United States signal corps, arrived in Berlin today from Coblenz.

BERLIN PUSH DENIED

Division of Polish Women Fights Ruthenian Troops Which Surround Lemberg

By the Associated Press

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A general advance by the Bolsheviki forces marching westward in Old Russia is claimed in an official report sent out by the Russian Soviet government. The capture of numerous villages is reported.

Lithuanian troops, the report states, have occupied Podrodzie, about thirty miles northeast of Vilna. In the region of Stepanovo the Bolsheviki claim to have taken 3000 prisoners and considerable booty.

Ruthenian troops have advanced and surrounded Lemberg, which is defended by the Poles, according to a Central News dispatch from Copenhagen quoting advices from Vienna dated Saturday. It is added that the Poles have been driven from Lubachoff, northwest of Lemberg.

In the advance on Lemberg the Ruthenians attacked with 20,000 rifles on a front of twelve miles. All the Polish forces in Lemberg took part in the fighting including a division made up of Polish women. This division, it is added, suffered severe losses and many of the women were captured.

Berlin, Jan. 4 (delayed).—(By A. P.)—There has been further shooting in Posen and lively street fighting between the Poles and home guards at Gnesen and Strelow. All rail traffic to Gnesen has been stopped. In Bromberg, northeast of Posen, the representatives of the German have been arrested by

RIGA CAPTURED BY BOLSHEVIKI

Reds Seize Many Villages in Westward Advance in Old Russia

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Transportation from French ports over the French railroads and then over German lines presents many difficulties which make the transportation situation of the Third Army far from good.

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